MR. G. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Sir, it goes without saying that we have got a very able Director of Agriculture in Dr. Kunjan Pillai. Whatever we might say against the working of his department we are quite sure that we would be shut out with arguments full of technical expressions which we might not be able to grasp properly, or suggestions of remedy, very much costlier than the profits to be derived, if the suggestions are followed. In regard to the cocoanut palm diseases he has suggested that the surest remedy is to do away with the infected trees. But the difficulty in regard to this suggestion is that the ryots will not agree to it. I thank him much for his frankness in saying that a sure and specific remedy has not yet been discovered for this cocoanut palm disease. He suggests that if the resisting power of the tree is increased by manuring there is every possibility of the disease being diminished. For that, the poor ryot wants money. Government have provided for the distribution of agricultural loans, but this item of work is now done by the Revenue Department. It would be well if it is transferred to the Agricultural Department, for the Dirtctor of Agriculture alone can see the proper application of the money distributed as loan. My friend Mr. Itoop Itteechan suggested that if the work of irrigation that is now being done by the P. W. D. is also transferred to the Agricultural Department, the department responsible for supervising agriculture, it would be done more effectively. It is a known fact that irrigation is the hand-maid of agriculture, and therefore the proper department to control the work of irrigation is the Agricultural Department itself and not the P. W. D.

Mr. Matthew Murikkan suggested that if long-time loans are provided for, it would be a great relief to the poor ryots. That is a good suggestion. With these observations I support Mr. Raman Pillai.

MR. D. FRANCIS (*Nominated*): The Director of Agriculture is a very hardworking officer. Wherever he is on circuit he runs up and down and inspects paddy fields, Veterinary Hospitals, Demonstration Farms.....

MR. V. CHELLAM PILLAI (*Tovala*): What are the paddy fields that he inspected ?

MR. D. FRANCIS (*Nominated*): I mean the paddy fields at Tiruppatisaram.

MR. V. CHELLAM PILLAI (*Tovala*): Is the member referring to the Government Experimental Farm there ?

MR. D. FRANCIS (*Nominated*): Yes. The Director also inspects private lands and takes with him the ryots of the place. With this difference I support the motion.

ALLEPPEY PORT.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Krishna Aiyangar, I have got a report from Alleppey which I shall read out to you;

"Owing very rough sea on ninth and tenth consequent bad weather off Ceylon mud accumulated vicinity pier. Conditions improving. Shipping work proceeding today. Two Small Bombay steamers in roadstead. British India steamer arrives tomorrow."

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